National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Increased mortality during the 2010 heat wave in Harbin, China

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Year: 2012
Journal: Ecohealth. 9 (3): 310-314

Abstract:

In this study, we investigated the effect on daily mortality of a 2010 heat wave in the city of Harbin in northern China. We calculated mortality rate ratios (RRs) by comparing the number of deaths during the heat wave period (June 7th-11th, 2010) to the number of deaths in the reference period (June 8th-12th, 2009). During the heat wave period, an overall excess of 41 % in total mortality occurred in Harbin. The RR of total mortality was 1.41 (95 % CI 1.22-1.63). Analysis by categories also found dramatic increases in the number of deaths in different gender, age groups and places of death. The 2010 heat wave was a strong risk factor for mortality in Harbin. Public health efforts should be improved to address the potential adverse health effects of heat waves.

Source: http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10393-012-0790-6

Resource Description

Early Warning System: ☑

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

Exposure : ☑

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Temperature

Temperature: Extreme Heat

Geographic Feature: ☑

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Urban

Geographic Location: ☑

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Asia

Asian Region/Country: China

Health Impact: ☑

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Morbidity/Mortality

Mitigation/Adaptation: ☑

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern: ☑

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Elderly

Resource Type: ☑

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Timescale: ☑

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified